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16 March 1964 *Cy #4*

Honorable Eugene G. Fubini  
Assistant Secretary of Defense  
(Deputy Director, Research and  
Engineering)  
Room 3E1014, Pentagon

Dear Dr. Fubini:

We appreciate the initiative which you and Mr. Fred Payne took last Friday to bring about an exploratory conversation on the topic of how national intelligence estimates can be made more useful to your studies of US force requirements and alternatives. While neither you nor we attempted to reach any final solutions, we certainly agree that US decisions with respect to active and passive defense will have such a major impact on military programs and national security that we must redouble our efforts to contribute useful and accurate intelligence appraisals in support of the decision-making process. We would be pleased to accept your suggestion of a follow-up meeting at the Pentagon to consider your specific needs in more detail.

In the meantime, you may find it of value to familiarize yourself with the approved work statements for certain national intelligence estimates and related projects which are either under way or scheduled for the coming months. To this end, I am enclosing copies of the Terms of Reference of two projects now under way which bear on your current problems. The first is LAP-64, an attempt to quantify the major elements of the entire Soviet military establishment to 1970 and to identify the ranges of uncertainty in these quantifications, laid on in response to specific needs expressed by Alain Enthoven and his people. The second is NIE II-3-64, an annual updating of the national estimate on Soviet Air and Missile Defenses, projecting to 1970 this year.

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As Mr. Stoertz suggested, a good way of bringing your specific questions to bear on the Terms of Reference of national intelligence estimates is to communicate with DIA prior to approval of the Terms of Reference or while DIA is preparing its contribution to the estimate. The former is preferable, of course. The ONE Staff proposals for estimates during the remainder of this calendar year, which Mr. Stoertz gave you, will give you a general idea of the expected timing of Terms of Reference and preparatory work on such annual projects as NIE 11-64 on Soviet Space Programs and NIE 11-8-64 on Soviet Strategic Attack Capabilities.

You will appreciate that the available evidence and the analytical resources of the intelligence community place very real limitations on our ability to make a responsible national estimate which will answer all the questions which the ONE Staff and the representatives of the USIB agencies and committees pose in the Terms of Reference. This year, for example, it has been agreed that all projections of Soviet weapons systems and force structures should be extended six years into the future, a period comparable to that covered by the DOD Five-Year Financial Summary and Force Structure, but we cannot guarantee that this will be achieved in every estimate. The CIA/DIA Joint Analysis Group, however, is planning this year to extend its exploration of alternative Soviet force postures to 1975, and certain DIA studies also attempt to project into the 1970-1975 time period.

Again, we would welcome the opportunity for a follow-up discussion at your convenience.

ABBOT SMITH  
Deputy Assistant Director  
National Estimates

OV1 - Tubini  
1 - EE w/attachments  
1 - AD/NE "  
1 - AD/ECline "